

**For Immediate Release**
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Contact: Yating Campbell
1-916-327-8988

Emergency Tax Relief Available for Businesses Owners Affected by Northern California Wildfires

Sacramento – Business owners and feepayers impacted by wildfires in Northern California, as discussed in this [emergency proclamation](#), may request an extension to file their returns, ask for relief from penalties and/or interest for some taxes and fees, or to replace copies of records lost or damaged, announced the California State Board of Equalization (BOE).

On August 2, 2014, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued an emergency proclamation for the state of California due to the effects of wildfires in El Dorado, Amador, Butte, Humboldt, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Modoc, Shasta and Siskiyou counties that have burned thousands of acres, destroyed homes and other structures and damaged critical infrastructure.

“Our hearts go out to all of those affected by these devastating fires,” said BOE Member Betty T. Yee. “BOE is ready to assist affected tax and fee payers.”

“We’re extremely grateful for our many brave firefighters, and our sympathy goes out to those who have lost homes and property,” said Board of Equalization Member George Runner. “Taxes are the last thing people should have to worry about at a time like this. That’s why we want them to know we are here to help.”

Requesting Relief

Tax and feepayers can go [online](#) to request relief from penalty and/or interest, and an extension of time to file a tax/fee return. Any tax or feepayer can use the online system to make their request for the tax and fee programs listed below.

Sales and Use Taxes	Oil Spill Prevention and Administration Fee and Oil Spill Response Fee
Fire Prevention Fee	Lumber Assessment
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes	Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee
Cigarettes and Tobacco Products Excise Taxes	Integrated Waste Management Fee
Energy Resources Surcharge	Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Fee
Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge	Electronic Waste Recycling (eWaste) Fee
Natural Gas Surcharge	Marine Invasive Species Fee (Ballast Water Management Fee)
Timber Yield Tax	California Tire Fee
Fuel Taxes (Diesel Fuel Tax, Interstate User Tax, Use Fuel Tax, Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax, Aircraft	Hazardous Substances Fees (Environmental Fee, Activity Fee, Generator Fee, Disposal Fee, Facility

Jet Fuel)	Fee)
Underground Storage Tank Maintenance Fee	Water Rights Fee

Those without Internet access may call the BOE Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-800-400-7115 (TTY: 711), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific Time).

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Board Member Betty T. Yee was elected to her post in November 2006. Her district includes many of California's coastal counties, from Del Norte to Santa Barbara, and includes the entire San Francisco Bay Area. Ms. Yee previously served as Chief Deputy Director for Budget at the California Department of Finance, covering a wide array of state and local finance policy matters.

Elected in November 2010, George Runner represents the State Board of Equalization's Second District. He is a leading advocate for California taxpayers. Runner has worked to improve California's tax policies and practices and to create and retain more private sector jobs in our state. Prior to his election to the Board, Runner served twelve years in the State Legislature, authoring the well-known California Amber Alert and California's Blue Alert. As a thoughtful conservative, his legislative priorities included improving the economy, business growth, education excellence, and public safety for all Californians. As a member of the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee, Runner consistently led the fight against tax increases and supported tax relief for families and businesses.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects \$56 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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